

Picture: JULIAN BROWN/MEN



Rio's grand talent show

FOOTBALL ace Rio Ferdinand is taking on Simon Cowell – by hosting his own version of The X Factor.

The former dancer began his bid to discover Britain's top young talent by holding auditions yesterday.

Hundreds of performers aged 10-25 turned up at Manchester's Dancehouse Theatre for the chance to impress the England international, 26, who has set up his own record label called White Chalk Music.

And just like music biz boss Cowell, Rio is offering a recording contract to the person who wins the final next year. An insider said: "It will be brilliant."

NEW FOOTIE RACE STORM

Speedie speech stuns fans

FORMER football ace David Speedie stunned an audience by talking about "n****s" in an after-dinner speech.

The ex-Scottish international shocked onlookers by appearing to back comments made by shamed pundit Ron Atkinson.

Speedie's speech came just days after Spanish yobs hurled abuse at black England players.

Atkinson resigned earlier this year after calling former Chelsea star Marcel Desailly a "f****ing lazy n****r".

But ex-Chelsea and Liverpool striker Speedie, 44, said: "What's wrong with call-

by JERRY LAWTON

ing someone a n****r if they are a n****r?" He made his comments at a dinner in Darlington, Co Durham, organised by Darlington FC Supporters' Trust. Trust chairman Tony Taylor said yesterday: "I don't think any of us were expecting comments like that."

Speech

"There were a few unfortunate, off-the-cuff comments made that we would certainly not wish to endorse or condone. We do not condone racist comments in any way whatsoever and are very keen supporters of the Kick It Out campaign."

Dinner guest Steve Rose, said: "Early on Speedie condoned everything that Ron Atkinson had said and he used the word 'n****s' a lot."

"He then went on to ask if there were any 'blackies' in the room, looked round and said 'no', ignoring the fact there were members of staff from the hotel who were black."

"It really was bad and I'm very angry that a nationally recognised footballer can talk to people like that



DINNER STORM: Speedie

and expect them to find it amusing."

Last night Speedie said that he was hurt anyone would think that he was a racist.

He said: "I am devastated that anybody could ever think that."

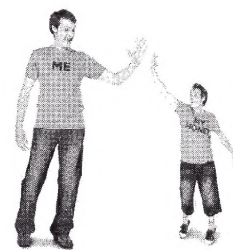
"I did tell a joke with regard to Ron Atkinson but it was to criticise what he said."

He added: "I am certainly not a racist."

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My hurt, by Yorke

MONKEY-chant victim Dwight Yorke told yesterday of his hurt at a soccer yob's sick racist attack.

The Birmingham striker climbed over hoardings to try to reason with the fan during the match against his old club Blackburn Rovers.

Onlookers said Yorke, 33, "was very cool". But he was then subjected to "the worst insult in the whole of my life".

Police confirmed a fan was thrown out of the ground after the incident.

Chief snubs Yorke: StarSport Back Page

SQAPER



FAN CLUB: Candice, Frankie and Danny watch Warren's football debut

WARREN'S WOE

CORONATION Street's young football ace Warren Baldwin didn't take long to make an impression on the pitch.

As our pictures reveal the teenager got shown the yellow card on his debut for Weatherfield County.

Warren (Darren Young, 18) lost his temper and kicked the ball out of play.

Cheeky Warren, nephew of factory boss Mike, then

■ by EMILY ROSE

back-chatted the referee – just minutes after coming onto the pitch as a sub.

Footie

His proud parents Danny and Frankie Baldwin, played by Bradley Walsh, 44, and Debra Stephenson, 31, joined girlfriend Candice Stowe (Nikki Sanderson, 20) in the stands to support him.

The football scenes were filmed at non-league Stalybridge FC's ground in Greater Manchester in the freezing cold.

Danny, who joined Corrie earlier this year, is well qualified to be a Weatherfield County player.

Before becoming an actor, he had ambitions to be a Premiership star and was an apprentice with Charlton Athletic.



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GORGEOUS Holby City nurse Jess Griffin will end up pregnant in a shock new storyline.

And it looks like the baby's father is her dad's best friend, Professor Zubin Khan. Zubin (Art Malik, 52), described as "her second dad" by her father surgeon Ric Griffin, will be mortified by the news.

Jess, played by Verona Joseph, will be equally terrified of telling dad Ric (Hugh Quarshie, 50) the identity of her mystery lover.

Last night a BBC series insider said: "Viewers know that widower Zubin has been fighting his fatal attraction for Jess, but the duo recently succumbed to their loved-up desires, and look at the result."

Trouble as Beale seals wheel deal

GARAGE hands Minty Peterson and Garry Hobbs go mad when the Arches is taken over. For their new boss is Mr Nasty EastEnders Ian Beale.

Gangster's wife Sam Hunter puts her brother Phil's business up for sale. And Ian (Adam Woodyatt, 36), who

■ by EMILY ROSE

owns the cafe and chip shop, will snap it up.

An insider said: "It's important for Ian. He'll be exorcising the ghost of his enemy Phil."

The insider added: "Minty and Garry try to scupper the deal, but they won't succeed."

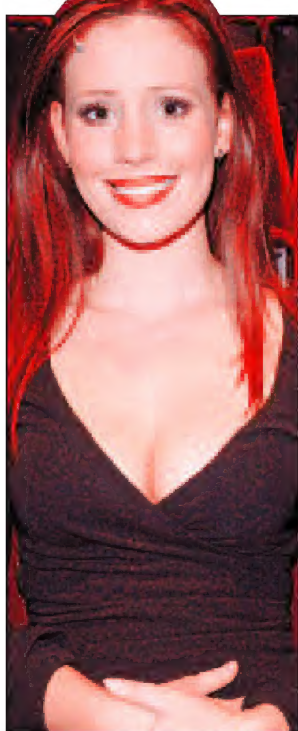


SWOOP: Businessman Ian



FAREWELL FLING: A sex-crazed Chloe getting to grips with Carl

AMY GOES OUT WITH BIG BANG



BEDDING GOODBYE: Amy Nuttall

■ by JOHN MAHONEY

THIS is the lusty moment sex-crazed Chloe Atkinson leaps between the sheets to exit Emmerdale with a bang.

Actress Amy Nuttall, 23, leaves the Dales soap early next year and her character will say goodbye with a bed-hopping marathon.

On Sunday fans of the country saga will see crafty Chloe get her wicked way by seducing Carl King, the former lover of her best pal Chastity Dingle, played by Lucy Pargeter, 27.

She lures Carl, played by 26-year-old Tom Lister, back to her place with the tasty offer of cooking him a roast dinner and all the trimmings.

But it's his body she's got a hunger for and, before you can say Yorkshire pudding, she's making a meal of Carl in an upstairs bedroom.

Tasty

He's the first notch on Chloe's bedpost in a whirlwind farewell that's about to turn her into Emmerdale's biggest tart ever as she rampages her raunchy way through the village's male population.

Waiting in the wings for his night of passion is Carl's hunky brother Jimmy, played by Nick Miles.

And Chloe will have a full house of Kings as she shamelessly gets to grips with the brothers' wealthy dad Tom.

She beds Tom, played by 68-year-old former Coronation Street star Ken Farrington, even though he's planning to marry Chastity.

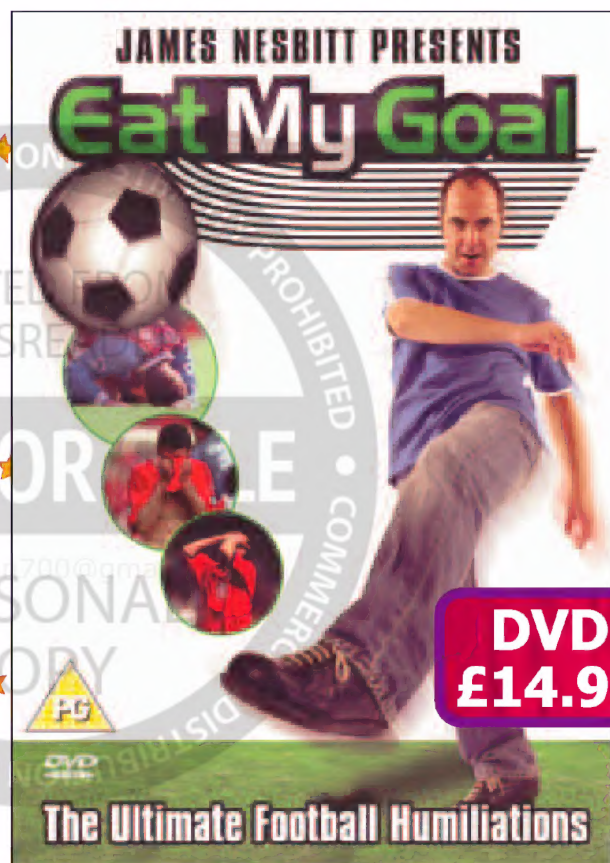
Our Emmerdale source revealed: "There's just no stopping Chloe. She's like a woman possessed."

"Starting with Carl, she will move from one bloke on to another. She really goes for it big time."

"Amy reckons it's a superb way to write out the character and is looking forward to shooting all the scenes."

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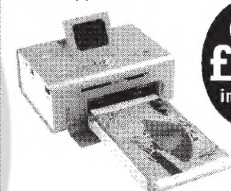
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SPARE a thought for our Motty, readers, as I'm saddened to report that Carolyn from *The 411* looks like she's got a new fella. The delightful diva was spotted getting her face chewed off by MTV's Alex Zane at the Smash Hits Poll Winners'

after show party. A spy tells me: "As soon as he got there Alex made a beeline for Carolyn. They then spent most of the next couple of hours having a very public kiss and cuddle." Cards of sympathy can be sent directly to Joe at the office.



JOE MOTT'S hot

Edited
by KIM
DAWSON



BEY'S PEEP SHOW

DESTINY'S Child babes Kelly Rowland 23, and Michelle Williams, 24, doubled up with laughter when they noticed pal **Beyoncé Knowles'** skimpy dress had turned see-through. The nipple-flashing moment on an American chat show raised a few smiles in the Hot office. The 23-year-old has been shaking off her holier-than-thou image even since going solo. The group's latest album, *Destiny's Fulfilled*, hit the Top Five on Sunday - proving their fans still think they're simply the breast.

FORGET the winter chill - rockers **Kasabian** know the way to raise temperatures. Singer Tom said: "York was rammed, really hot." Catch their sweatfest as part of *Gonzo* on Tour, MTV2 at 9pm all this week.

LEMAR has been in touch with Justin Hawkins in another bid to work with **The Darkness** frontman. He told me: "We chatted at the Band Aid recording and are sending stuff for each other to hear."

Blue movie

BAND'S BIG SCREEN FUTURE

BLUE'S Anthony Costa has followed bandmate Lee Ryan by writing a film script.

It proves that when Blue take a break after their 2005 tour each member is after success. Ambitious Ant, 23, told me: "I've

EXCLUSIVE

written a film which is a detective comedy drama and I'm really proud of it. "It's set in north London and I wrote it with a mate of mine." Ant,

who once had a bit part in *Grange Hill*, has made no secret of his acting desires.

He once told *EastEnders* producers: "Come and get me." "In the New Year the film will go into production," he said.

"I'm currently deciding whether to star in it. Everything is looking really good. All the boys have loads planned."

Lee, 21, is directing *Changes*, the flick he penned based on his childhood in violent south London.

Solo

He told me: "I can't wait to get the film out there and for people to see it."

But don't expect to see Blue the movie just yet.

The band - Ant, Lee, **Duncan James**, 25, and **Simon Webbe**, 25, have no plans to cross over their solo projects.



SCRIPT: Anthony

KYLIE Minogue has finally admitted her indie period was a big mistake. The Aussie angel flopped when she turned to producers like **Manic Street Preachers** singer James Dean Bradfield and signed to trendy label Deconstruction in the 90s. She says: "Sometimes you get your feet burned. I had been safely packaged but I broke free. Then I lost my way." She was only saved when Spinning Around propelled her to the top spot in 2000.



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Normal Daily Star rules apply. The editor's decision is final.

I'VE got a mega Robbie Williams contest. One reader can snare goodies including a signed gold disc, a DVD of *What We Did Last Summer*, and his Greatest Hits CD. Robbie joins over 35 of the UK's fave celebs as part of Amazon.co.uk's Christmas Stars. Top names showcase interviews, unreleased tracks and video and audio messages. Check www.amazon.co.uk/christmas-stars

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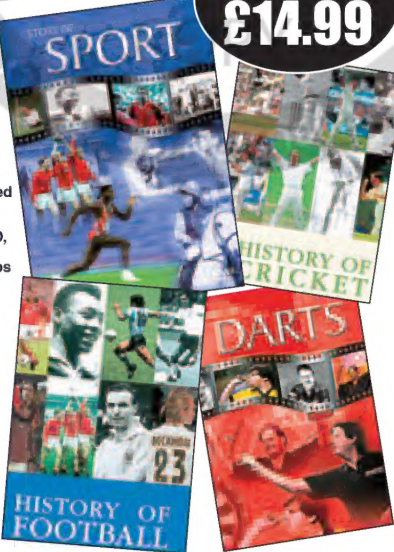
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DATING BABE LIKE KELLY IS BAD FOR YOU

by MATT JOHN
DATING a top beauty like Kelly Brook could be bad for your mental ... and physical health.

A quiz of 1,000 guys by a dating website showed the sexiest babes bring big problems, as actor Jason Statham might agree since Kelly dumped him: The top 10 pitfalls are:

1 Staying with her for the wrong reasons. Fellas blinded by stunning looks often ignore cheating, bitchiness or other personality flaws.

(Just ask Jason Statham)

2 She's a BIG-HEAD! She may honestly think that she is the prettiest, smartest, most talented, most fun woman in the room. The report asks: "Can you honestly deal with someone like that?"

3 You will be insecure. Guys wonder whether their eye-popping babe is trustworthy, then it becomes an obsession.

4 It's hard to trust her. A real beauty usually gets whatever she desires ... often another bloke.

5 You're under her thumb. The survey said: "If you are always doing things for her, and she never reciprocates these actions, you will grow resentful."

6 Is she after your money? The first thing everyone assumes will be that you are loaded - why else is such a babe with you?

7 No one will notice you. When a guy makes an entrance with a fabulous babe, all eyes are on her. But the report adds: "If you aren't the insecure, attention-seeking type, this may not bother you."

8 Jealousy. A babe can transform the most placid of guys into "possessive obsessives".

9 Fights. Ex-boyfriends won't accept she prefers you.

10 Other men. They will constantly try to sleep with her. Who can blame them?



HEAVE-HO: Jason

Picture: www.celebritypictures.co.uk

COP KILLER SUSPECT BEGGED ME FOR GUN

Claims his bodybuild pal

■ by JERRY LAWTON
THE bodybuilder accused of shooting three police officers tried to buy a gun from his vitamin supplier, a court heard.

Christopher Motherby, who sold David Bieber bodybuilding supplements, said: "He asked me for a gun on several occasions."

American-born Bieber also tried to get guns from five other people – and three of them were fellow club doormen, the jury was told yesterday.

One, Kristian Pearson, said Bieber told him he used to smuggle gun parts into Britain from Ireland. He told the court: "He wanted to buy things to go with it – bullets."

Another was gym manager Inderjit Rall.

Arrested

He said: "He approached me in the gym and asked if I could get a gun. I said no. I was shocked."

His dad Germit – the gym's owner – said Bieber had twice asked him the same question.

He said: "He asked me if I could get him a gun or if he knew anybody who could get him a gun."

"I looked a bit surprised. I said, 'This is a gym, mate'. The second time he asked me the same again and I was shocked again."

"I said, 'I've told you, I don't know anybody'." The



SHOT: Pc Broadhurst

prosecution alleges Bieber, 38, opened fire on Pc Ian Broadhurst and colleagues Neil Roper and James Banks after they arrested him in Oakwood, Leeds, on Boxing Day last year.

Pc Broadhurst, 34, died after being shot twice – once in the chest and then through the head at point-blank range as he pleaded for his life.

Bieber denies murder and two charges of attempted murder.

The trial at Newcastle Crown Court continues.



Picture: X17AGENCY.COM



Xtina's rock – and roller

■ BLING singer Christina Aguilera dined out in style with her latest favourite companion yesterday – her brand new Rolls Royce.

The Dirty pop babe, 23, recently splashed out to buy the flashy £180,000 white Phantom motor.

Her hunky boyfriend Jordan Bratman, 25, pictured with her, is thought to be ready to pop the question to Christina on December 18 – her 24th birthday.



IN KEY: Jim Fenner

It's Bad Girls... in song

■ by NIGEL PAULEY
SLEAZY screw Jim Fenner has turned into a Sinatra-style crooner in a new Bad Girls musical.

A stage version of ITV1's hard-hitting prison saga is showing in London this weekend to attract investors.

Randy Fenner, played by Jack Ellis on the telly, will be seen as a suave Rat Pack singer.

Laughs

Helen Fraser, who played warder Sylvia Hollamby, returns in the same role.

It is hoped the money-men will back the show's bid to reach the regions and eventually the West End.

Writer Kath Gotts said: "It's not a p***-take like Prisoner Cell Block H."

"It is not being played at all for laughs, but there are laughs in it."



**STARS
 TEXTS
 LETTERS**
 Page 45



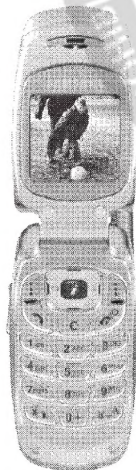
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Geri stylish

SEXY singer Geri Halliwell played a pearly yesterday as she launched her new single Ride It.

The ex Spice Girl Geri, 32, wowed fans at Woolworths in Brighton. One said: "She was dressed in dark colours, but she still managed to brighten the place up."

Picture: SOUTHERN NEWS AND PICTURES

MOANING MAXINE'S MAN PLEA

She gives hunks her address

MAXINE Carr is so desperate for a fella she's given out her secret new address to dozens of male admirers

The move has horrified Home Office officials who are desperate to hide her identity, fearing that she will be an easy target for vigilantes.

They are spending £1million of taxpayers' cash every year trying to find her.

But Carr, 27, is so lonely she is willing to blow her cover to land a bloke.

A pal said last night: "We have seen letters from fellas addressed to her at her new place - some are

by JERRY LAWTON

very good-looking. They can only have got her address from her. She's desperate."

The new identity of killer Ian Huntley's former girlfriend is protected by a court order, which she wants toughened up.

But lonely Carr has been trying to cheer herself up with secret shopping trips, spending the money she's been earning in her new £5-an-hour job.

Confident

Asked why she now felt confident enough to walk the streets, the friend said: "The injunction is just there to suit Maxine."

"She isn't at all worried about being attacked and doesn't give a damn what people say."



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ADVICE FOR COLEEN AS SHE JOINS THE FASHION BUSINESS...

Check out the COMPETITION



WAYNE Rooney's fiancée Coleen McLoughlin is the latest well-known face who fancies turning her hand to fashion.

Though not particularly noted for her style sense, the pretty 18-year-old is unashamedly clothes mad after transforming from fresh-faced schoolgirl to designer-clad girl-about-town over the last 12 months.

Now it seems Coleen will be turning pleasure into business by opening her own chain of

By SAM PARKER and CLARE TAYLOR

label-conscious boutiques, the first of which is planned for Manchester, near where she and Wayne live in Wilmslow, Cheshire.

But will her attempts to achieve fashionista-heaven prove boom or bust for Coleen?

And how will a footballer's wife-to-be compete with the far more starry names who are now lining up to flog their togs to the world? Noted style queens such as

Gwen Stefani and Victoria Beckham are already, or about to be, in on the act. While it seems you can't be anyone in hip-hop without selling your own range of branded tees and baseball caps, like Jay Z, Nelly, P Diddy and Eminem.

Then of course there are all those delicious divas. Beyoncé, Christina and Britney are all rumoured to be about to follow where J.Lo has triumphed.

But despite the success of so many of the American big hitters, there's always a flip-side – especially on this side of the Atlantic, where even many of the A-listers have feared to tread.

And does anyone remember Victoria Hervey's Akademi Boutique?

Probably about the same number of people as actually shopped there...

Here are just a few of the celebs keen to persuade us all to get their kit on.



P DIDDY

DIDDY'S Sean John range is a major success story. Set up in 1998, Sean John now peddles menswear, womenswear, underwear and loungewear to the masses. It's no wonder the brand turns over an estimated £110-280 million annually.

JENNIFER LOPEZ

J.L.O.'S self-titled range is a collection of Juicy Couture style velour tracksuits and various other sexy/sporty type clobber aimed at the youth market. Not content with J.Lo clothing, lingerie and swimwear, Jennifer says she tries to "continue expanding her fashion authority with virtually limitless opportunities".



GWEN STEFANI

L.A.M.B is the upmarket collection of clothing from the uber-hip Gwen Stefani. It has all the hallmarks of the No Doubt singer's unique style, making it the hippest celeb gear ever sewn. The range, launched this summer, marks the first offering from a bona fide fashion icon, though collections from the equally cool Pharrell Williams of N°E R'D and Outkast's Andre 3000 will be hot on Gwen's high heels.



BRITNEY SPEARS

SHE recently launched her first signature fragrance Stateside and it seems the new Mrs Federline now wants to expand her empire to couture. Britters' fashion sense might have come in for a battering of late but her golden touch could still make this one to watch.



JAMELIA

FOLLOWING in the footsteps of Samantha Mumba and Misteeq, Jamelia is the new face of Reebok, which also requires her to act as a "fashion consultant" to the sportswear giant by helping to create new designs for them.

KYLIE MINOGUE

THE pop princess's sexy range of undies, Love Kylie, proved so popular that last month she launched a complementary hosiery line called LK Legs.

Due in the shops for spring/summer 2005, the range will feature suspenders, foxy fishnets and peek-a-boo knickers.

As Kylie puts it: "LK Legs are for all women, whether it's the sexy secretary or the screen icon look you're trying to adopt."



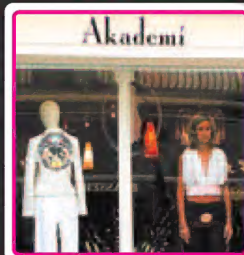
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VICTORIA HERVEY

VICTORIA opened swanky Akademi in Belgravia in April 2000. Despite an initial celeb clientele, the store closed in 2001 with estimated debts of £350,000. The fact that even A-listers struggled to get in probably didn't help.

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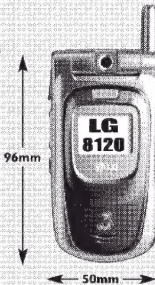
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SURGERY: Jamie Lee

Jamie's nip and hooked

MOVIE star Jamie Lee Curtis has blamed plastic surgery for getting herself hooked on drugs.

Jamie, 46, said she turned to painkillers when she tried to maintain her "perfect" body. But she said the procedures, including Botox and liposuction, all failed.

Jamie, whose dad Tony Curtis was a known drug-taker, said: "Genetically, I have the possibility of being a plump person."

"When I found it starting to happen I tried various types of plastic surgery."

"And every time I did, something went wrong."

Abuse

"It was a big stimulator of my drug abuse. I'd anaesthetise myself on a daily basis. I found painkillers helpful as they did the job without the messiness of alcohol."

Jamie, star of *A Fish Called Wanda*, has been off drugs since marrying film director Christopher Guest in 1984 and has been sober for six years.

She added: "Getting sober exploded my life. Now I have a much clearer sense of myself."

MEN spend £40 more than women on their loved one's Christmas gift. A John Lewis survey shows men spend an average of £115, while women spend £75. A stores spokesman said: "Women have had a better deal out of Christmas for years."

Wrap up for booty

SANDWICHES have lost their place as Britain's favourite munch – to an American snack.

Last night supermarket giant Tesco revealed the egg and cress booty has been kicked off the top seller spot by the chicken Caesar salad wrap.

Tesco sandwich buyer James Cornish said: "This is a sad day for the sandwich as it's held its own against all manner of foreign invaders for so long."

In third place is the chicken fajita wrap, fourth ploughman's lunch sandwich and fifth the chicken salad sandwich. The tortilla-type snack first became popular in Britain in the late 90s.

GREEN FINGERED

POLICE plan to spray criminals who try and flee with Smart Water – which glows luminous green for up to six months.

WE'VE GONE TO POT

Cannabis busts are soaring as law goes soft on users



Kourni's a belle-ter

BASELINE babe Anna Kournikova was the belle of the ball at a charity bash in the US. The beautiful blonde, 23, happily posed for snaps with

star-struck fans at the glitzy party in Lexington, Kentucky. It's no wonder. She'd be at the top of most fellas' guest lists.

THE number of people caught with cannabis has soared since laws on possession were relaxed.

Seizures have risen by 31% since it was downgraded from a class B to class C drug at the start of the year, police figures revealed yesterday.

It is still illegal to smoke or possess the drug but police have been told that generally people caught with it should not be arrested.

But many users believe they can openly puff spliffs – and have taunted police over their supposed lack of powers to stop them.

Message

In London, 8,148 people were caught with cannabis between April and August this year as opposed to just 6,231 in the same period last year.

Most were given informal warnings or cautions.

A police report concluded the changes had sent a confusing message to police and the public.

It says: "Youths were telling officers they could

■ by NADINE LINGE

not do anything about their possession of the drug."

Bob Neill, Conservative leader on the London Assembly, said cannabis should be reclassified as class B. He added: "The reclassification would seem to have made it harder rather than easier to enforce the law."

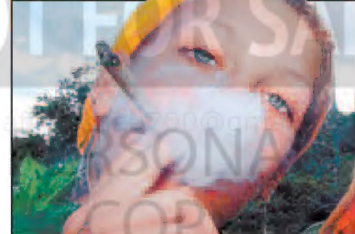
Police have also found more cannabis factories springing up and large quantities of the drug

coming in from abroad. Shane Collins, who organises the Cannabis Festival in Lambeth, south London, said users were confused.

He said: "It's not an arrestable offence in most circumstances, but you still can't buy it legally."

The Home Office said police were issuing street warnings.

A spokesman added: "Consequently there has been a dramatic decrease of 53% in arrests, freeing police resources to tackle class A drug offences."



SMOKE SCREEN: Users are confused by law

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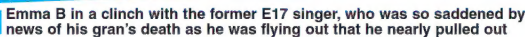
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EMMA HAS A HOT WELCOME



FOR HER FELLA

Hero B r fo

By EMILY VOLK

RED-HOT Emma B pro boyfriend Brian Har really steamy time wh leaves I'm A Celel jungle camp.

Jungle camp. The 30-year-old former E1 can expect some seriously action between the show welcome him home.

Stunning supermodel Er says with a wink: "All I'll do spend a fortune on underwear, especially L and Agent Provocateur, v my favourite shop.

"And once I spent £480 in on basques, corsets and knicker bra sets. I was going for Blaise to look in her Toxic video!"

Brian has had a tough start on the show and considered quitting even before it began.

But these sizzling shots that whatever happens outback, he is onto a winner

Romantic

The phwoarsome model
it's only what her man des
however.

Emma calls her sweetheart "best lover a girl could have" and adds: "People seem to think Brian is flash and always trying to show off but he's not at all."

"He's a lovely bloke – romantic and loyal."

Emma herself had been ed on I'm A Celebrity but because she feared the show their relationship under st

The jungle boy has been hard to keep up a brave face, losing the other contestants late

His gran died as he was fl
he nearly turned back. I
tears and comforted by the

Brian decided to stay as his gran wouldn't have wanted him to miss out on the experience.

Emma also reveals that Brian had been asked to appear on the previous *I'm A Celebrity* season.

"He was asked to do the [film] at the time he wasn't into

TV," she reveals. "I was a do the one before last, but wasn't worth the gamble."

This time, the bust:

This time, the bus
wants to B ready for h

Stylist: **ANGELA TSUI**
Hair and make-up: **GARY COCKERILL**

BLACK TO BLIGHTY: Bikini top and buckle hipster briefs, Huit, 0207 7403 7788. Silver charm necklace, John Rickmond

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